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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

FOCKE et al. : Group Art Unit: 2734

Serial No.: 09/663,469 : Examiner: T. Truong

Filed: September 15, 2000

For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR

PRODUCING CIGARETTE PACKS : Date: August 1, 2002

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of May 1, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION;

The paragraph at page 9, lines 1-10, should be amended to read as follows:

--An (independent) special feature is the configuration of the heating elements, namely of the heating plates 32, 33 (Figures 7 and 8). The carrying plates 34, 35 have a recess which is enclosed by a border and is open in the downward direction in each case. In each case, each

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